



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Strive, Believe, Achieve"

Po Box 285, Warracknabeal 3393

Telephone: (03) 53981 433 Facsimile: (03) 53982 430

Website: www.warracksc.vic.edu.au

Email: warracknabeal.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

Our school Values

Honesty ~ Excellence ~ Respect ~ Resilience ~ Perseverance

Our Moral Purpose - Students will be able to choose a life that has meaning.

Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

*Term 2 Week 8
15th June,
2017*

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What a wonderful weekend in Warracknabeal celebrating the 150 Year birthday of the town. Congratulations to all involved in making this a memorable community event. We had over 200 past students, staff and family members come for school tours on Saturday morning, which is a true testament to the sense of connection so many people have to the school and the town. I enjoyed listening to the stories of the past, as alumni walked around and looked for differences, remembered which teachers taught in which rooms, and what student antics took place. The parade was well represented by WSC staff and students, which was a visible reminder of our commitment to be a community school.

On Tuesday, staff were engaged in an Assessment and Reporting Development session to ensure that our midyear reports are as accurate and meaningful as possible. Staff are working on giving clear feedback about the actions of students that are required to be a successful learner. This includes some very specific strategies about not only what they need to improve, but also how this can be achieved. The reports are being developed based on our core value of **honesty**, which is a prerequisite for genuine improvement based on accurate feedback.

I have thoroughly enjoyed surveying students over the last week and running student forums to get direct feedback from students to help us improve the school. Some themes are coming through about how we can best manage resources with reducing class sizes with some more flexible options in the Middle Years for students to mix with each other. We are hoping to be able to respond to this feedback in Semester 2; however, it might take some more planning to give students more say in their curriculum for 2018. Over the next two weeks, I will be following up the remaining students who have not yet completed the survey.

Michael Briggs-Miller

Principal

Absence Hotline - 5398 1433 Or email

Charmaine – Mon, Tues and Fri - wilson.charmaine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chelsea – Wed and Thurs - smith.chelsea.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please notify the school by 12 noon on the day of the absence.

No Breakfast Club this Friday 16th June due to exams.

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Heath Schulz

Exams

VCE exams will conclude this week and I must commend the students for their efforts. While all students who sat exams will get a result, it is important to reflect on what the result actually means. Is it a true reflection of performance? What can I control to improve the result? What support measures (including people) need to be consulted post exam? I would strongly encourage students and families compare these exam results with the mid-year school report to get a more complete picture of student performance. Subject teachers and coordinators will be more than happy to clarify any information to assist students improving.

Senior school information evening

The senior school information evening will be held on Monday the 19th of June, from 6-7:15pm, in the college foyer. Students and staff will hear from a variety of key people about the opportunities in senior school. While this evening is specifically aimed at Yr. 9's and their families, any student and their family are welcome to attend. Invitations were handed out to Yr. 9's in LPC classes last week.

Careers expo

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Careers expo will be held on Tuesday the 27th of June. This is a fantastic opportunity for Year 9-12 students to continue to explore and question career pathways and opportunities. The college sees great value in this opportunity and has covered all costs for this event.

Driver education

Over the next two weeks, the Year 12's, Year 11's and Year 10's will complete Looking after our mates, Fit to drive and Keys Please respectively. This is supporting the continued efforts to increase driver safety at the College. These education sessions, aligned with home and community driver education will continue to make our students safer road users.

Heath Schulz

Acting Assistant Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WHITNEY MUNROE

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the 150th Year Anniversary of Warracknabeal. What a great community event that was supported by students, staff, families and community members alike!

Our staff have been working diligently to update our new reporting structure so that students are receiving feedback about their growth in classes. The changes in our reports are supported by the Department of Education and are aligned to our school focus on Growth Mindset. In our Learning Pathways classes, we have focussed on setting individual goals with students so that they can track their own learning.

According to the Department, "Individual learning goals and targets aim to improve students' learning and achievement and build students' capacity to learn. Students who set their own learning goals and targets have more confidence to take on more challenging tasks, regardless of their ability. Their motivation to improve and master a task increases and their self-esteem remains strong, even in the case of failure."

On the new reports, you will be able to clearly see the areas of improvement that students need to work on for Term 3. We encourage you to have a conversation with your students about their goals and what they are striving towards in their classes.



Volunteering is a great way to give back the community, increase your self-confidence, and help you develop a sense of pride and identity. Many of our students have been involved in volunteering in Warracknabeal and this is having a positive impact on the students and those they are helping. One of the opportunities our students have participated in is Riding for the Disabled where they help individuals with disabilities ride horses. This is a great opportunity for our students to do something purposeful for those in their community while also developing their skills with horses.

If you know of an opportunity that would benefit both our students and the community, please contact me at the school to discuss.

Whitney Munroe

Assistant Principal of Middle School



From the Office:

If your child requires bus travel after school, please send a note to the office or see the bus coordinator Mr J Foley at the beginning of that day. The note should include the name of student, date and location of travel. Thanks



Could we please remind all students that it is important to follow through with a commitment to attend a camp or excursion. If for some reason you are unable to attend, you need to notify the teacher in charge at your earliest convenience. Last minute withdrawals have a huge impact on cost of travel, booking of activities, attending staff, amongst other factors. If you withdraw from an excursion or camp with minimal notice, you may still be required to pay part or all of the cost.

Fees: Could we ask that School Fees for Semester 1 please be paid as soon as possible. If you are having any trouble with payments please come see the ladies in the office.

Uniform Donations

A call out to any families that may have any unused/second hand uniforms hiding away at home that you would like to donate to WSC would be greatly appreciated. Please drop off donated uniforms to the school office.

Jayne Shannon

Uniform Co-ordinator



On the 5th of June, 11 of our VCAL students participated in a day of driving instruction at the Charlton Driving School. All students found the day of instruction highly valuable. (student report to come in next newsletter)

Coming up to the end of term, students will be receiving their reports. This is a changed report format from the one received at the end of Term 1. Included in this report format is the number of classes that the student has attended and skills that are required for being an effective student. Class results are not included on the report as these can be found on Edmodo.

Edmodo

Results and feedback for student progress can be found on Edmodo. This can be downloaded by parents using the parent Edmodo app. Once this is downloaded, you can ask your child for their parent code, which is found on the home page of the child Edmodo page.

Attendance

An attendance summary page of unexplained absences has been sent home recently. Please fill this in to the best of your knowledge and return to the school. The school requires records to be as accurate as possible.

Note - It is important to note that in VCAL the assessment required for passing/competencies is 'applied' and therefore students need to be viewed completing the task by a staff member to be stated as competent.

Work Experience

In the next couple of weeks students will be involved in work experience at levels 10, next week (19th – 23rd June) and 11/12 the week after (26th – 30th June). Only a couple of students in VCAL have taken up the opportunity to participate in this program and we will be running normal classes for all students who have not returned their paper work. Students are not permitted to complete work experience without the completed paper work under the OH&S rules. Work experience enables students the ability to experience work for a full week at a time and is a valuable tool in looking at future career paths.

Careers Expo

The Careers expo is on the 27th of June, permission forms have been sent home. Students will be expected to complete some investigation and written work at the expo which will be able to be handed in as a writing and oral component. Classes will run for students who have not returned forms by the 21st of June.

Progress and Redemption letters

There have been a number of letters sent home to parents/guardians regarding students' progress concerns in the past month. As yet, many of these requirements have not been completed and submitted. Students are encouraged to seek help from their parents, teacher or coordinator to complete these tasks. Students are required to complete and submit evidence to be considered for being marked competent and pass VCAL classes/levels. Any questions regarding progress can be discussed with me by calling the school.

Those that attended the 150 years celebration and visited the school would have seen some of the awesome project work completed by some of our students in Wood and Auto. Mikaela has been completing a sarcophagus wardrobe, Jack has been completing an entertainment unit and Connor has a fishing cabinet he is finishing off from last year. In Auto, James has revamped his grandfather's air compressor and Lachlan has got an old auger engine operating. A big thanks goes to Mr Peter Loy who put this display together. Fantastic Job to all involved.

Lisa Sanders

VCAL Coordinator



WSC is looking for JUNE's

Writing of **any genre** can be submitted for consideration. Poetry, short stories, fiction, non-fiction, speeches... and so on. This could be work that you have created in any of your classes, or something that you have written outside of school.

There is **no word limit** for the competition.

All winning pieces are published in the school newsletter. Additionally, all winning entrants will receive a prize and a Young Achiever **Award**.

By entering the competition, you affirm that the work you submit is your own creation.

Send your entry to Ms Zhou via Edmodo or in person by Thursday 30th of June (the last day of Term 2).

Project Rokit

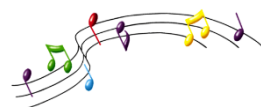
Project Rokkit visited WSC on Thursday 8th June, where Ash and Dani came to talk about social labels, judgements, the power of bystanders, how to practically call out bullying when students see it, and build a positive culture in the school community.

Students were asked: **next time you see bullying happen**, "will you be part of the problem or part of the solution?"

When asked 'How would you like to be remembered when you leave Year 12?' some of our favourite answers were: kind, compassionate, loyal, for who I really am, and a good guy. One student said "When I leave high school, I want people to remember me for who I really am, not the judgements made on how I look."



Music Lessons at Warracknabeal Secondary College



Mr Shane Worthy, who has a Bachelor of Education and Associate Certificate in Voice is happy to offer singing and piano lessons at Warracknabeal Secondary College. Mr Worthy has taught both piano and voice at many prestigious schools in Melbourne and Geelong and has performed in many shows and competitions with outstanding success.

Forms are available at the office and need to be completed and returned as soon as possible.

Careers Report

Kids Undercover Student Scholarships now open

The Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Student Scholarship Program is designed to assist young people living in public or community housing, or those at risk of homelessness, get the support they need to stay in education and achieve their full potential.

The DHHS Student scholarship provides funds for items such as textbooks, computer equipment, public transport, disability aids or other specialist equipment and is valued at \$1100.

To be eligible for a scholarship, the student should meet all of the following criteria:

- Under 21 years of age at 1 February 2018
- An Australian or permanent resident
- Experiencing financial hardship
- Living in social housing (ie. public or community-managed housing) or at risk of homelessness
- Studying Year 11 or 12 at a Victorian Government school, or equivalent at TAFE for the 2018 year (currently in Year 10 or 11)
- Have the potential to achieve a good attendance record and a successful educational outcome in the 2018 academic year
- Supported within the school/TAE community by an appropriate staff member.

If you think you may be eligible, please see either Mr. Schulz or Mrs. Stewart for further information.

Year 12 students - GAP Year Opportunities

EA Ski & Snowboard Training specialise in full season job placements through their popular Ski and Snowboard Instructor Internship Program. Over the past 10 years, EA has put over 3,000 young people through internationally recognised qualifications and into jobs all over the globe.

The second recruitment stage for the **2017/18 winter season is now open.**

They are looking for students that:

- * Have a passion for skiing or snowboarding (Low-level intermediate to advanced ability welcome)
- * Have a willingness to learn through training and working
- * Have an interest in travel and adventure
- * Are available between December and April
- * Will be 18 years of age by November
- * Are looking for a life-changing experience
- * Have the financial support to participate - **internship placements start from US \$6,975**

* **Limited positions available:** Due to limited instructor employment positions it is very important that students apply now. Almost half of the placements are filled already and programs will fill in the next few months.

Locations - We work with partner ski resorts in Canada, USA, Japan, New Zealand and Switzerland. Programs start in November each year.

For general information about our internship programs around the world, check out the website

www.easkiandsnowboard.com

Deakin Inspire – July School holiday events

Deakin University Burwood and Geelong Campuses are offering workshops aimed at Year 10, 11 and 12 students about empowering students to reach their potential and inspire with exciting ideas of how their futures could look. Hosted by Andy and Ben from “The Block” (who are both Deakin Graduates). There are seven different guest speakers from various backgrounds as well as study area workshops. Melbourne Burwood Campus is Tuesday 4th July and Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus is on Thursday 6th July.

Look up: www.deakin.edu.au/deakininspire for further information.



Tuesday June 27th
Wimmera Events Centre
Longerenong
9:30am – 2:00pm

The annual Wimmera Careers Expo is coming up in the last week of Term 2.

The Expo format has many elements, including:

- Career and Course Exhibitor displays
- Manufacturer and Trade interactive activities – ‘Try a Trade’
- Comprehensive Seminar program, including Apprenticeship/Traineeship Information Sessions
- Tertiary Information Session and Exhibits – T.I.S.

Aims of the Expo:

- To provide regional students and jobseekers with a broad range of vocational and course information, as well as career pathways advice in a ‘one-stop shop’ event in their local area
- To make available a broad spectrum of careers/jobs role models, especially for those in isolated and remote communities of Western Victoria
- To offer current advice regarding qualifications, training and prerequisites, business prospects and vocational opportunities to students, careers-changers, jobseekers & parents
- To encourage students to consider broader pathway options
- To encourage school retention to Year 12 or equivalent
- To assist parents of students with understanding career and course pathways
- To have a co-ordinated careers event in Western Victoria and bring presenters together under a Wimmera-Southern Mallee Careers ‘banner’

All permission forms have been handed out. Please ensure these are returned to school before the day. If you have any questions please see Mrs Stewart.

Work Experience

All Year 10 & 11 students have been given arrangement forms for the upcoming work experience weeks (Year 10 – 19th June, Year 11 - 26th June). Please support your children in helping to arrange a week of work experience. All forms need to be returned ASAP. Please see Mrs Stewart if you have any questions.

VET Try Day – Current Year 9-11 students

On Thursday 3rd August Year 9-11 students **who are thinking about completing a VET course in 2018** have the opportunity to participate in a TRY VET DAY in Horsham, where students take part in 2 VET sessions. These sessions will run for one and a half hours each and will give students the chance to experience VET. Students will find out about the course, the venue and facilities, meet students with similar career interests etc. (and get a free BBQ lunch).

Courses on offer for next year are: (either Certificate II or III)

Agriculture	Automotive	Business *
Building and Construction	Civil Construction	Community Services*
Dance *	Electrotechnology	Engineering*
Salon Assistance	Furnishing *	Music *
Interactive Digital Media	Kitchen Operations*	Plumbing
Sport and Recreation *	Screen & Media	Kitchen Operations

Each of the above programs can contribute to your Senior School Certificate and those * can directly contribute to your ATAR score (with scored assessment).

Information has been handed out to students last week. If you are in need of a selection form, please contact Mrs Stewart. Selection forms need to be returned to school by the end of this term Friday 30th June.

If you are in Year 10 or 11 and are thinking about transferring to VCAL for next year, you will need to enrol in a VET course. Please talk to Mrs Stewart ASAP.


Year 9 VCE Information Night Reminder

All Year 9 students have received an invitation to attend the Year 9 VCE information night on Monday 19th June at 6pm. Come along and hear from current students about pathways through VCE & VCAL. Every attendee will receive a “show bag” full of exciting information on careers, pathways, tertiary/TAFE courses, apprenticeships, etc.

Nicole Stewart

Careers/VET Co-ordinator

Structured Workplace Learning



REGISTRATION IS FREE

Year 10, 11 and 12

VCE Study Skills Day

Tuesday 4 July
Gippsland Campus (Churchill)

Wednesday 5 July
Berwick Campus

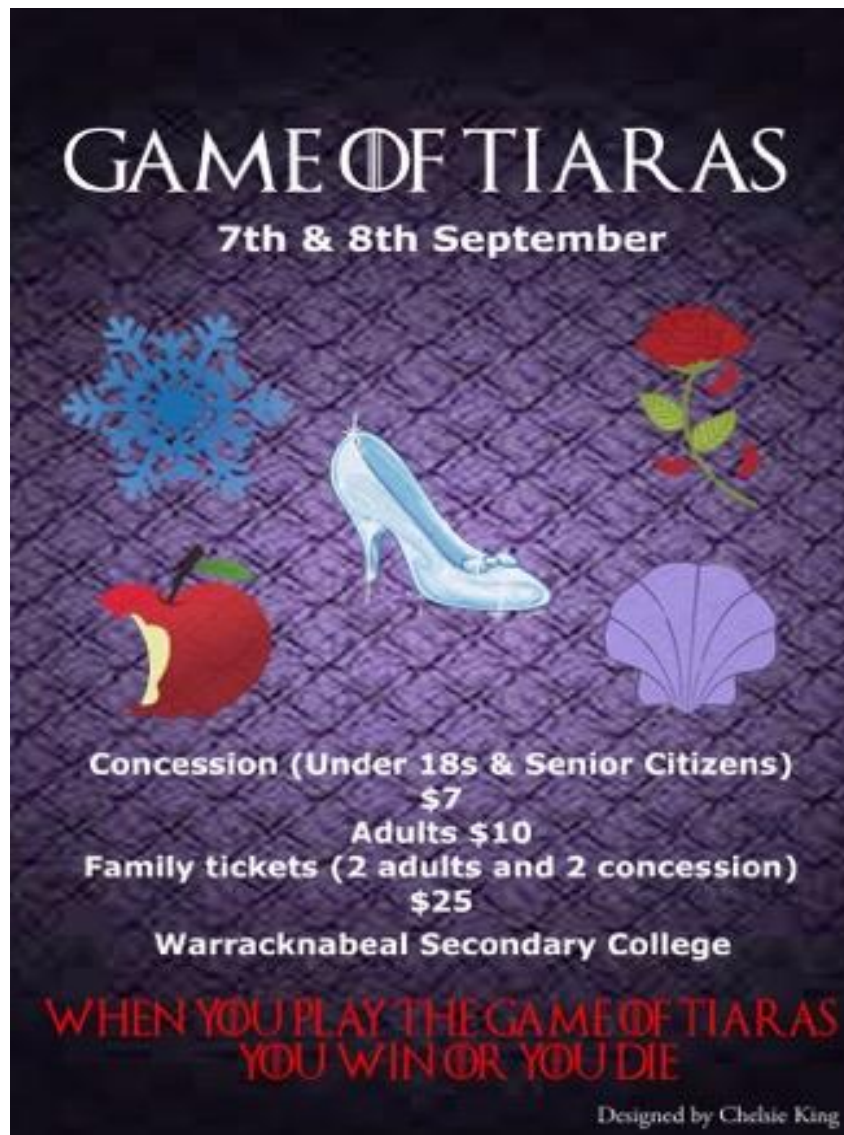
Friday 7 July
Mt Helen Campus (Ballarat)

9.30am–2.00pm at each campus

Tackle your VCE with confidence. Develop new skills and learn about:

- Time management
- Increasing motivation and avoiding procrastination
- Critical thinking
- Life as a Uni student

Learn more and register at
[federation.edu.au/VCEstudyskills](https://www.federation.edu.au/VCEstudyskills)



[Like us on Facebook.](#)

We are up to 842 LIKES on the Warracknabeal Secondary College Facebook page. If you haven't already "liked" our page make, sure you do so you can get updates on what's happening around the school.

Calendar of Events

June	13 th - 16 th	Yr. 12 Exams
	19 th	School Council
	19 th	Year 9 VCE Information Night 6pm at WSC
	19 th - 23 rd	Yr. 10 Melbourne Trip
	19 th - 23 rd	Yr. 10 Work Experience
	26 th - 30 th	Yr. 11 Work Experience
	27 th	Careers Expo Yr. 9-12
	30 th	ADF recruiting talk Yr. 9, 10 & 11
	30 th	Last day Term 2



Community Events

Wimmera and Southern Mallee

Try VET Day 2017

Try any 2
VET subjects
to help decide which
one to enrol in for
2018.

Students
must complete a
registration form to be
able to attend.

Thursday 3 August

A free lunch will be provided by the LLEN

See your VET Coordinator for a registration form or for more information

